

their course of flight, so far as rising and falling, as I have seen them go over the rising surface of a not very high wave, and their flight is also almost always slightly dipping. I have also thought they sometimes altered their course to the right or left without touching the surface of the water; but it may have been owing to the wind. They will often barely touch the surface of the water, and rise again, keeping on in the same or an altered course. There went a shoal of a dozen or twenty this very minute, rising and falling slightly, and entering the water and issuing from it again and again, and altering their course, for the distance of seventy-five to one hundred yards. The motion of the fin is *not always* steady, as I have seen when they rose near the ship and the sun struck favourably upon them; for in those cases the motion was intermittent in velocity, though kept up all the time, and might be represented by a line more or less shaded. I have observed them fly thirty or forty yards without touching the water, though I should say usually they would not go more than half that distance. They do not usually rise much over a foot above the surface of the water, often much less, though one was said to have come on board the other day, and to do that, I should think, must have risen at least eight or ten feet.—*Proc. Boston Soc. N. H.* x. p. 21.

On some Marsupial Fishes. By L. AGASSIZ.

Professor Agassiz states that at Tefé he discovered several species of the family Chromidæ which carry their eggs at the bottom of the mouth in a marsupial pouch formed by the superior pharyngeal bones and the anterior cavity of the first branchial arch. This apparatus is furnished with numerous nervous filaments, which spring from a special inflation of the medulla elongata immediately behind the cerebellum. This inflation resembles the electrical lobe of the *Malapteruri*. Other species carry their eggs in the folds of their lips, such as the *Loricariæ*; others, such as the *Hypostomi*, hatch theirs like birds. . . . The changes of form undergone by the young fish are very instructive as regards classification. A Scomberesocid of a new genus has jaws resembling those of *Belone*; but when young, the upper jaw is so short that it might be taken for a *Hemirhamphus*.—*Ann. Sci. Nat.* 1866, tome v. p. 228.

On the Occurrence of an Internal Convoluted Plate within the Body of certain Species of Crinoidea. By JAMES HALL.

During the investigations upon the *Crinoidea* of the Carboniferous Limestones of Iowa, there were discovered in the broken bodies of several species a vertical convoluted plate, filling a large part of the cavity of the body. At that time I showed several of these specimens to Prof. Agassiz, who informed me that he had observed a similar convoluted plate in the body of *Comatula*.

This convoluted intestinal plate was first observed in the body of *Actinocrinus pentagonus*, and afterwards in *A. longirostris*, *A. erodus*, *A. Verneuli*, and in a species of the type of *A. un-*